

Thus a systematic investigation of these three sets of clues gives no positive proof of the ancestry of our Thomas Levet of Exeter and Hampton. The most probable line is that of Lincolnshire and Yorkshire, connected with both Wheelwright and Wentworth.

But if Levet were a protégé of John Wheelwright, he did not follow the Antinomian to Wells in 1642. The removal of their pastor scattered the Exeter settlers in that year, and in 1643 we find Thomas Levet at Hampton, next neighbor to Exeter, where his name is signed to a petition against Lieut. William Howard.

The list of grants and possessions in the old Hampton town records, made about 1644, in the beautiful handwriting of William Howard, the town clerk, shows that before that date Thomas Levet had married Isabel (Bland), widow of Francis Asten of Dedham and Hampton. The record follows:

II. 58. House lots and other ground granted &c. unto the several inhabitants of Hampton, compiled Anno 1644.

THOMAS LEVITT OF HAMPTON.

1. 5 a. of upland for a house lot granted unto Fras. Asten the former husband of Thomas Levitt's wife, lying betw. upland of Saml. Getchell, sometimes Will. Hunton's, before that John Philbrook's to the West, and the upland of Thomas Sleeper's sometimes Chr. Lasone's.
 2. 5 a. of upland granted to Thomas Levitt.
 3. 10 a. upland in the North plan of upland.
 4. 6 a. meadow granted to the above named Fras. Asten, former husband of Tho. Levitt's wife, lying between the meadow & marsh of Timothy Dalton N.E., and Will: Howard S.W.
 5. 3 a. meadow bought of Anthony Taylor, betw. A. T. & Taylor's River.
 6. 6 a. salt Marsh granted unto him, betw. Widow Husse N., & Will. Maston S.
 7. 5 a. salt marsh bot. of Anthony Taylor.
- Additions to Anno 1658.
8. 5 a. bought, granted to Edw. Palmer.
 9. Granted to Tho. Levitt 2½ a. swamp betw. swamp of Sam. Getchell & Timothy Dalton.
 10. 5 a. salt marsh gr. to John Sanders.
 11. 4 a. upland bot. of John Samborne.
 12. 11 a. salt marsh beyond Falls River.

The Norfolk County record of the birth of James Levet in 1652 calls him "son of Thomas and *Elisabeth* Levitt," but this is a clerical error, repeated in Pope's *Pioneers of Maine and New Hampshire*. We may safely assume that the only wife of our Thomas Levet was Isabel Bland, daughter of John Bland of Watertown and Martha's Vineyard. John Bland was a stepson of Jeremiah Norcross, and his mysterious *alias* of "John Smith" has been explained by Dr. Charles E. Banks, in his *History of Martha's Vineyard*, vol. 2, pp. 41-46. It is possible that John Bland and the Hampton Drakes were of Yorkshire origin.

The old pronunciation of the family name was Lovitt. In spelling it our Thomas Levet seems to have used interchangeably "Levet," "Levitt," and "Levit." These are the forms in which the name of Ralph Levett of Grainsby appears: "Levet" when he signed his name, "Levitt" when others wrote it. In the case of our Thomas Levet the uncertainty of Colonial orthography is increased by the fact that apparently he could not write, and always signed by a mark, so that his name was spelled and written by some one else. It is "Levitt" in the Exeter Combination, written by his relative Wheelwright, and also in the record of a deed in 1659, in the "Wheelwright Deed," the Hampton record of 1644, and the Drake deposition. In signatures of 1654 and 1657 and in the Martha's